

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3-4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Williams (U.S. Patent No. 4,094,703); rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams in view of Axmark et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,732,452); objected to claim 1 as being based on an apparent typographical error; and indicated that claims 2 and 6 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2 and 6 contain allowable subject matter and would be in condition for allowance if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2 and 6 have each been rewritten in independent form. Each of the remaining claims, *i.e.*, claims 3-5, now depend on independent claim 2. Accordingly, Applicants submit that each of pending claims 2-5 should now be in condition for allowance.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections. A timely allowance of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding

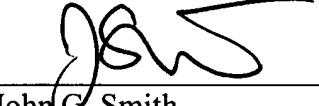
after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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